

IT111 Week 9 Podcast Winter, 2009

Hello and welcome to the Week 9 Podcast for IT 111.

In this podcast I'd like to make some announcements, discuss the Chapter 9 Assignment and talk about the form you'll be including in your final project.

First, the announcements. I ordered course evaluations this week and I wanted to give you a quick heads up about them. On March 13th, they'll be sent to the email address you have on record with the college. They are completely anonymous and I am not able to see them until after I've submitted my grades. I hope you'll take the time (probably less than five minutes) to complete yours. In addition to standard evaluation questions, you'll have an opportunity to make suggestions for improving the class. I depend on getting good ideas from current students to make the class better for future students. If you haven't received your evaluation by March 14th, check your spam or junk mail folders. And let me know right away if you don't find yours so I can order another one for you. This is really important to me so please fill out your evaluation.

Students often ask about other Web development related classes available at North. One I'm highly recommending is ART 210 - Computer Art taught by Mark Meyer. This class is only taught on campus but Mark is a fabulous instructor and he'll teach you how to create graphics for the Web along with many other types of graphics. I just checked and only the evening section (item # 1043) still has space available.

Another good class is CSC 110 Introduction to computer programming. This is a basic programming class taught with JavaScript and as you may have noticed, many web sites use JavaScript to enhance and add functionality to them. There are usually several sections of the class and one is always offered online. All the instructors who teach this class are very good.

Thanks to Micah for finding **Web Design: From Good to Great in 25 Links** and sharing it with me. This is an excellent resource on a wide variety of topics related to web design from well known bloggers and web developers. Jean says, check it out!

Chapter 9 covers XHTML forms and you'll probably notice right away that the course evaluation is an example of a form. Google's search box is another example of a form and every time you order something online, you're filling out a form. So, forms are very important on the Web. There are two parts to forms. One is the XHTML code that is included in the web page. The other is a program or script that processes the form. In this class you won't be learning how to write programs or scripts to process forms (you'd do that in CSC 110) but you will be learning how to code a web page with some basic form elements.

The textbook instructor has provided URLs for the programs that will process the forms you work on in Chapter 9. The URL on page 366 is the one you'll need for the first task. And, each of the case studies has its own customized URL you'll use when you create the form for your case study.

As a reminder, the forms you create for this assignment must work and validate.

Your final project must include a form and I encourage you to review the final projects from previous quarters - paying special attention to the forms they've included. I think the Spanish Ed project form found on the Contact page is a really good example for several reasons. It's meaningful in terms of the content of her web site and it includes a variety of form elements. It's laid out nicely, too.

In next week's podcast, I'll be providing several tips for the final project.

Well, I guess that's it for this podcast. Thanks for listening and turn in next week for another IT 111 podcast.